GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1039
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
PROTECTION OF COW PROGENY IN RAJASTHAN
RADHA MOHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cow progeny in Rajasthan is about one crore thirty lakhs but about 25 per cent of the cow progency have perished due to drought for the fourth consecutive year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Cattle population in Rajasthan is 1.21 crores as per 1997 livestock census. The annual growth rate is 0.74% from 1992-1997. The projected cattle population is about 1.27 crores for 2003. There is no report from the State Governmenton the cow progeny perished due to drought.

(c) Government of India have assisted the State in various ways to combat the effects of drought, such as:

(1) Rs. 11.66 crores were provided from NCCF for cattle care and feeding in Goshalas/Cattle Camps.

(2) Organized quality testing of 30,000 MT of cattle feed grade damaged foodgrains allotted to the State from FCI.

(3) Facilitated free transportation of fodder and water by railways.

(4) Neighbouring States were impressed upon to make available surplus fodder to Rajasthan.

(5) All States were requested not to use fodder for industrial purpose, not to burn the straws and minimize loss of fodder during harvesting in order to make available more fodder to the affected cattle in Rajasthan.

(6) The State was provided additional fodder seed minikits to grow green fodder in suitable areas and supply to the affected cattle population.

(7) Government of Rajasthan was empowered to make an order under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for regulating the price of fodder and restriction on unauthorized hoarding of fodder within the State.

(8) Assistance from NCCF/PMRF was provided to Cattle Camps/Goshalas for care and feeding of cattle in pursuance of the suo moto announcement made by Hon`ble Prime Minister in December, 2002.